

52. The isolated nucleic acid of claim 51, wherein the nucleic acid is cDNA or RNA.
53. A composition comprising the isolated nucleic acid of claim 51 and a carrier.
55. A vector comprising the isolated nucleic acid of claim 51.
56. An isolated host cell comprising the isolated nucleic acid of claim 51.
57. A method of producing a mammalian protein or polypeptide having the ability to bind the cytoplasmic region of CD40 receptor, which comprises: a) growing the host cell of claim 56 under suitable conditions such that the nucleic acid is transcribed and translated into protein and b) purifying said protein.